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Volume 21

Number 2

The Primary Source

A Semiannual Publication of *The Society of Mississippi Archivists*

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The Society of Mississippi Archivists

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The Vicksburg National Military Park Archives

Michael B. Ballard

Coordinator of the Congressional and Political Research Center
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My love affair with the city of Vicksburg in general and the Vicksburg National Military Park in particular goes back to my childhood when my parents loaded my brother and me into the family car and took us to these places that to me, even at a young age, had a mystical quality about them. I have always treasured hill and mountain country, and the mighty bluffs and ravines that make up the terrain of the town and the Park have a beauty that I have trouble finding words to describe.

Beyond the physical majesty of the area, I appreciated, and still do, the ghostly, spiritual presence of the past that permeates so much in and around Vicksburg. The old chair encased on the main floor of the Old Courthouse Museum is a favorite example. Even in my young years, I could almost sense General U. S. Grant sitting there, chewing and puffing on his ever-present cigar, as he discussed strategy with his staff. The sign in the exhibit says he used the chair, and I hope that he did, because I still feel like speaking to him every time I see it. The old court room up on the second floor of the museum also has a special feel, as does the wonderful exhibit at the Park visitors center which depicts glimpses of the horrors and tragedies of siege warfare. I still recall being in the visitors center one day and noticing a young woman rushing out of the exhibit area. She nervously smiled at one of the park personnel working in the area and mumbled, "It's spooky in there." She was right, but for people like me who enjoy occasionally letting my mind and senses drift back through the ages, it is also a special place where I can in a small way experience the siege. I am glad I was not there then, but I am equally glad that I can briefly immerse myself in the atmosphere, artificial though it may be, of those hot summer days in 1863.

As my spiritual ties to Vicksburg evolved over the years, I had no idea that someday I would be a Civil War historian and an archivist, and that the two together would provide a unique opportunity for me in 1997. I knew Civil War historians wrote books about the war, many of which I had read, but I had no thought of doing anything like that myself. Until the early 1970s, I doubt I had ever heard the term "archivist", though I had a vague notion that an "archives" was a dusty, dark, dank place where old stuff was kept. I surely never thought of a profession being associated with such things.

Thanks to a cousin who got me interested in relic hunting on Civil War battlefields, I drifted into the history profession. While in graduate school at Mississippi State University, I learned that teaching jobs for historians at the collegiate level were rare (still are unfortunately), so I might ought to think about another career that was in some way related. That fact of life led me into the archival field. Fortunately, I found as much satisfaction, probably a lot more, in organizing and preserving historic documents and artifacts and making them available to researchers than in trying to explain American history to students, most of whom emerge from high schools knowing very little about the subject. I do not mean to imply that I do not enjoy teaching; on those rare occasions when I get to teach a class, I usually find it rewarding. I just am not at all sure I would want to give up my archival career to do it full time.

Speaking of that archival career, I have been an archivist in the University Archives, Special Collections Department of the MSU Library since 1983. I also coordinate the Congressional Collection which has become a division known as the Congressional and Political Research Center, to be in full swing by January, 2000. The point is that in my work I rarely have an opportunity to work with Civil War-era documents. I have run into such materials with much frequency in doing historical research through the years, but it is not quite the same as working with them on a daily, or at least a frequent basis.

That changed when Terry Winchel, a long time friend and historian at the Vicksburg National Military Park, approached me in 1997 about taking charge of an archival project at the Park. Funds had been allocated for the purpose of processing the archival materials on hand, and since I had done so much research at the Park, and had an archival background, Terry thought I would be perfect for the job. Emotionally, it was like a dream come true. I could come to Vicksburg more often and actually have the chance to plow through all the Park records. The whole idea had a ring of nirvana about it. But, alas, the reality was that I had a job, a full-time job that physically was a good three hour drive from the Park. As great as it all sounded, I regretfully told Terry I did not see any way that I could do it. I began to try and think of others who could.

Weeks drifted by, and I forgot about the project. I had made some suggestions to Terry about archivists who possibly could do the job. Then, during another research trip to the Park, Terry brought up the subject again. And, again, patiently, I explained why my participation was impossible. I have no doubt that Terry had been pondering this matter, trying to think of a way he could convince me. He had indeed thought of a compelling argument. Why not hire graduate students, train them, and let them come down and do the nitty gritty work? I did not say yes right away, but the thought appealed to me. Having been there myself, I know most graduate students are always short of funds, and I knew several graduate students, one of whom had at one time been my student assistant, who had the ability to get the job done.

So we proceeded. The National Park Service regional office in Atlanta sent me a book on processing guidelines, and I hired four MSU graduate students in history. I had to explain to them that the Park Service had structured the work in four phases, and that I would receive payments as each phase was completed. I quickly realized that this kind of structure could mean that I might run out of money to pay them from time to time, depending on how long each phase took, a factor which was a definite unknown. They agreed, though none of us knew then how big a problem this would turn out to be. The breaking up of the project into four parts looked fair enough on paper, but the plan turned out to be very unrealistic, mainly because the amount of work in each phase varied greatly.

Before my crew could start working, I had to survey the Park's holdings. I quickly concluded that no one really knew how much archival material they had. Archives of various types and formats were stored hither and yon; this was no one's fault, it merely underscored the problem of preserving a national park's history without having an archival program in place. The curator of the U. S. S. Cairo museum, Elizabeth Joyner, had accomplished much in documenting and cataloging artifacts (which was not part of the archival project), and she had also made significant progress in cataloging photographs. Otherwise, archives were partly here, there and everywhere, and even after surveying the material and arbitrarily assigning series titles, I still did not have an adequate appreciation of the volume we had to deal with.

After completing the survey, I worked with Elizabeth to order enough supplies to get us

rolling, held training sessions with my crew, and they finally began the first of their many, many round trips to the Park. We were given a house in the midst of the Park which had one time had been the superintendent's home and is now office space for various Park personnel. It sits about a hundred yards from where U. S. Grant and John C. Pemberton met to discuss the surrender of Vicksburg. However great its ambiance, the house was not an ideal place to be working with archives. Climate control was a major problem, and we understood that rats had been seen occasionally (probably descendants of rats that had been breakfast, lunch, and/or dinner during the siege). A computer for folder listing and a photocopier were brought in and the supplies finally arrived. At last we could begin transferring all the archives from their various previous homes to a central location. We could not, of course, do that all at once due to space limitations, so the crew had to work series by series as much as that was possible.

At times, the work area resembled a war zone, which given the location of the place, seemed appropriate. The varying series, and the even more varying formats and sizes of materials, forced my crew to be very creative in assembling and maintaining piles of material that belonged in the various series. The cramped quarters tested the patience of my workers, who began to get on each other's nerves and to be frayed in general. Illustrative of the transformation of their demeanors from enjoying the work to enduring it was a written note I got from one of them attached to a progress report. It began, "Greetings from Nam." Fortunately, they all have good senses of humor which helped greatly along the way.

Perhaps the biggest problem we encountered was that we were not provided with complete guideline information up front. The most exasperating example came upon us like a very ill wind. We found out that the Park Service wanted folder labeling done a certain way. That would have been no problem if we had been told that up front. As it was, that lack of knowledge on our part extended the project several months, because we had to go back and redo hundreds of labels. We could not simply retype them, since the Park Service also insists that label information be penciled in. We had similar experiences in other areas of the project, and nothing damaged the morale of my crew, and me, more than having to go back and correct something that we had unknowingly done wrong. Fortunately, none were of the magnitude of the folder snafu.

I would caution anyone doing such a project to be very, very, very sure of all guidelines before you begin. If you wonder about something that is not addressed in the guidelines, do not assume anything. Ask questions, and continue to do so until you are sure that the person you are reporting to is on the same wavelength you are. And if that contact person is hesitant about giving you a straight answer, shut down the project until you get one. I ran into that problem in trying to get instructions on putting our compiled information into the Park Service database. The Service had adopted a new system, and no one seemed sure how to run it. So we simply stopped work until we got our questions answered. Far better to do that than to have to go back and redo it.

The final result of our work was a 688 page guide (all data is also in the Park Service database). We established several series of records: General History and Military; Photographs, composed of the following sub-series-Rigby Family, V.N.M.P. General Scenes, Monuments, Miscellaneous Oversized; Park Bridges, Park Buildings, Aerial Photographs, Civilian Conservation Corps, U. S. S. Cairo, U. S. S. Vicksburg, Living History, Cannons, Grounds/Maintenance, Repairs and Renovations, Erosion Control/Artifacts/Visitors (Groups), Vicksburg National Military Park Early Years, Removed from Other Series, Individuals/Their

Monuments/Miscellaneous, Photographs Removed from Superintendent's Narrative Reports and Miscellaneous Projects, Monuments/Plaques/Busts, Negatives, Glass Lantern Slides, Prints [From Negatives], Sleeved Negatives, Oversized [Portraits, Albums], and Photos Removed from "Vicksburg Campaign Series"; Maps and Blueprints; Monumentation; Newspaper; National Cemetery; William T. Rigby; Vicksburg Campaign Series, which includes the Regimental Files and Journals/Diaries/Letters Files sub-series; Administrative; Land Records; Scrapbooks; Edwin Cole Bearss; U. S. S. Cairo; Audio-Visual and Computer.

The paperwork for each series consists of a title page, consisting of the park address and pertinent phone numbers and contact persons, title of series, accession and catalog numbers and inclusive dates; an "Instructions for Using Finding Aids" sheet; "Archival and Museum Collection Access Policy, Vicksburg National Military Park" statement; a "Copyright and Privacy Restrictions" statement; a series-level survey description sheet; folder list; and index. Folder titles consist of the actual title plus pertinent bracketed information which amplifies information and provides additional data for inclusion in the indices. For example, a folder title from the General History and Military Series reads "Confederate Soldiers interred in the Magnolia City Cemetery and Columbia County, Arkansas-booklet, 1992" [lists of soldiers from several wars, includes a biography on Major General John Porter McCown]. This is a tedious method of processing, but the massive amount of information the process provides makes for extensive indices that will be of great value to researchers. For example, the index to the Photograph Series is 33 pages and the combined indices of the Vicksburg Campaign Series are 43 pages.

The archives at the Vicksburg National Park still need much work. There are various preservation concerns that need to be addressed, and the Photographs Series needs to be evaluated for possible weeding and restructuring. I included these and other suggestions in recommendations made to pertinent park staff during the course of the project.

Even though the project became tedious, boring, and at times very frustrating, I am very proud of what we accomplished. My team of workers did a great job. James Stennet, Craig Piper, and David Eldridge did the bulk of the work. I also received able assistance from Grace Piper and Clay Williams, and special thanks goes to Peggy Bonner who overcame the mysteries of the Park Service database and did a terrific job entering all the data. Very special thanks also goes to Elizabeth Joyner, who was our liaison and did a masterful job of facilitating the entire project. Jenean Couch, our contact at the regional Park Service office in Atlanta, helped us get through a variety of red-tape mine fields. I also appreciate park historian Terry Winchel's help along the way. As mentioned, he talked me into doing the project, and I must say at times I was not sure if my long-time friendship with Terry was a blessing or a curse. (Just kidding Terry, well, at least partly.)

Nevertheless, we not only endured; we prevailed. Already we have received much positive feedback from the park staff about how delighted they are to finally have a handle on their archives. A new park archival facility is almost ready for occupation, and hopefully my crew and I established the groundwork for what will be an ongoing, properly funded archival program. The world may little note nor long remember what we did there, but, if the archival work we began continues as we hope it will, it will never forget what happened there. Despite any trials we may have gone through, that knowledge is sufficient to provide enormous satisfaction to us all.

Timber Related Source Materials about Mississippi's Piney Woods: An Archival Survey of the McCain Library and Archives at the University of Southern Mississippi

Reagan Grimsley

Few natural resources impacted the lives of Mississippians to the degree which timber has. In particular, the southeastern and south central regions of the state received the label "piney woods" because the dominant features of the region consisted of longleaf, shortleaf, loblolly, and slash pines. Early Mississippians might have labeled other regions of the state according to the soil content, but the towering conifers which proliferated from the Gulf Coast northward to Jackson, and westward to near Natchez, seemed the main economic resource by which to label the area.¹ The purpose of this article is to detail briefly why timber has been a major factor in the development of the region, and more important, how a survey of related archival materials, specifically materials at the McCain Archives at the University of Southern Mississippi, can be of benefit to researchers in several disciplines, including forestry, history, environmental studies, biology, and anthropology. A secondary, but nonetheless important objective of the work is to provide a reference resource for librarians which can be used as an introduction to the primary archival sources on Mississippi's piney woods housed at the McCain Library and Archives.

Man's use of timber, in particular the pine, influenced the economic, cultural, and environmental development of an entire region. Although all settlers in southern Mississippi made use of timber in various ways, including fuel and construction materials for personal dwellings, other more economically feasible uses of the natural resources began to develop in the early 1800's. The production of naval stores, including pitch pine and turpentine, became a major use of the pine during the nineteenth century. The construction of sawmills also began in the early 1800's, and by the end of the century, the pine represented the major economic resource in South Mississippi. The previously untapped virgin forests of the area lured large corporate investors to the region.² Numerous small towns erupted, many in previously unpopulated areas.³ New technologies, such as the bandsaw, increased the capacity of the sawmills, making the large mill the standard of the day. The timber could not

¹Nollie Wade Hickman, *Mississippi Harvest: Lumbering in the Longleaf Pine Belt, 1840-1915* (Oxford: University of Mississippi Press, 1962), 1-14. The first chapter of the work is a detailed description of South Mississippi. Other useful sources for a insight into the background of the region include E. N. Lowe, *Forest Conditions in Mississippi*, U.S. Forest Service in conjunction with the Mississippi Geological Survey, Bull. No. 11 (Jackson, 1913), 38-39, 97-99; also Charles Mohr, *Timber Pines in the Southern United States*, U.S. Bureau of Forestry, Bull. No. 13 (Washington, 1896), 30-31, 42-43.

²Hickman, *Mississippi Harvest*, 1-90.

³For a good overview of blossoming timber towns between 1880 and 1930, see the following: Annie Louise d'Olive, "Reminiscences of Ten Mile: A South Mississippi Sawmill Town," *Journal of Mississippi History* 39 (1977), 173-184; John P. Switzer, "Handsboro: A South Mississippi Town, 1840-1920," M.A. Thesis, University of Southern Mississippi, 1985.

last forever; by 1930 many areas of the piney woods were devoid of the once plentiful longleaf pine. Since the practice of reforestation had not yet taken root in the South, the lack of, instead of proliferation of the pine, distinguished the landscape for many years to come.⁴

As early as 1920, a new era of timber use in Mississippi began. Concerned over the vast amount of unproductive land, the Forest Service became more active in the region after 1920. Based in nearby New Orleans and established in 1921, the Southern Forest Experiment Station had the stated purpose of "ascertaining the best methods of growing timber crops and for promoting full use of the forest lands in the southern United States for the production of timber and other forest crops."⁵ In 1933, the United States Forest Service also established the Harrison Experimental Forest, located in Saucier, Mississippi, with the assigned purpose of studying all southern pines, and methods of regrowth.⁶ The federal government was not alone in forming support agencies to study the depletion of the pine; state officials also saw a need for intervention. In 1926 the State Forestry Commission came to life with the "avowed purpose of providing for reforestation in Mississippi."⁷ By the late 1940's the efforts at reforestation began to pay dividends; the harvest of second growth pine forests again brought economic opportunity to a number of South Mississippians. Although not on the scale of the previous decades, corporate firms such as Georgia Pacific, Masonite, and International Paper established sizable mills in the region, and, through the efforts of conservation and regrowth, the forest lands of South Mississippi became once more an important and salable resource in the region.

With such a rich and varied scholarly background, various disciplines have studied the timber industry in Mississippi during the twentieth century. Historians reflect on the economic and sometimes, cultural impact of timber on society. Students of forestry, and to a limited extent, biology, offer theses on just how timber affects both humans and the environment of Mississippi, and to a greater extent, the Gulf South. To a much more limited extent, anthropologists and environmental pathologists study either the pine, the industry it spawned, or how timber-related industries impact the people of the region. Scholars have made no attempt, however, to document and list the pertinent archival holdings which are central to a study of the industry.⁸

A survey of archival sources can be very constructive for researchers in all fields who study the environment, and can enable the librarian or archivist to ascertain pertinent holdings of value to a particular researcher. During the past ten to fifteen years, the donation of several

⁴Hamlin L. Williston, *Southern Pine Management Primer* (New York: Vantage Press, 1985), 1-2.

⁵Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, *Tenth Annual Report and Program of the Southern Forest Experiment Station* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1930), 3.

⁶United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Southern Research Station, *Southern Institute of Forest Genetics: Technical Advisory Visit*, (Gulfport, MS: Southern Institute of Forest Genetics, 1997), 9.

⁷Mississippi Forestry Commission, *First Biennial Report of the Mississippi Forestry Commission* (Jackson: Mississippi State Forestry Commission, 1927), 1-2.

⁸Nollie Hickman, in *Mississippi Harvest*, did provide a short bibliographical essay of sources, but this list is hopelessly outdated, and refers to mainly historical sources.

archival collections has shed new light on the industry as a whole. Recent scholarship, including the ongoing work of historian Gilbert Hoffman⁹, has rejuvenated interest in the field. A compilation of primary archival materials at the University of Southern Mississippi could provide a solid, usable resource which would become a very helpful tool for future researchers.

The largest archive in the state south of Jackson, the University of Southern Mississippi's McCain Archives are located on the main campus in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. The venue, in the center of the Piney Woods, is appropriate for the study of the timber industry in the region. At the present time, the archives actively pursues archival material related to lumber and logging in Mississippi. Although not covered in the scope of the study, the university's Oral History Program also documents the history of timber in the Pine Belt.

Contained in the McCain Archives are several useful collections of primary source material on the timber industry. These collections include several photograph collections of lumber companies, manuscript collections, and various railroad collections which closely relate to the operation of the timber industry in South Mississippi. At present, all of the listed collections are open to the researcher.

The Batson Family Deeds consist of approximately ten land deeds, dated 1841-1908, of property owned by the Batson family. Batson, an independent surveyor and timberman, owned large tracts of land in Harrison County. Since the land deeds cover a large period of time, the content could be of use to researchers interested in a variety of topics.¹⁰

The Goodyear Yellow Pine Photographs portray not only the lumber company and mill of the same name, but several also contain images of the older Rosa Lumber Company, which became a part of the Goodyear Yellow Pine Company in 1917. All of the forty-five images in the collection, most of which are black and white photographs, are of facilities either at the Goodyear Yellow Pine Mill, built in 1918, or the Rosa Lumber Mill. The dates covered by the photographs are 1915-1920.¹¹

One of the most thorough holdings of the University of Southern Mississippi is the Gilbert Hoffman Collection. Hoffman, a retired engineer turned historian, is the author of *Dummy Lines Through the Longleaf: A History of Sawmills and Logging in Southwest Mississippi*, published in 1992. The collection includes research materials which Hoffman used in completing the volume, as well as a number of photographs, negatives, and drawings of railroads and locomotives of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century. Although most of the photographic images are from Mississippi, the researcher should note that several come from other southern states. Several detailed maps of early railroads, including the Mississippi

⁹Gilbert Hoffman, *Dummy Lines Through the Longleaf: A History of Sawmills and Logging Railroads of Southwest Mississippi*, (Oxford: Center for the Study of Southern Culture, University of Mississippi, 1992). The most current work by the author is *Steam Whistles in the Piney Woods: A History of the Sawmills and Logging Railroad of Forrest and Lamar Counties* (Hattiesburg: Longleaf Press, 1998). Mr. Hoffman is currently producing volume two of *Steam Whistles*.

¹⁰Finding aid, Batson Family Deeds, McCain Library and Archives, The University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

¹¹Finding aid, Goodyear Yellow Pine Company Records, McCain Library and Archives, The University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Also contents of the collection.

Central, are included in the collection, and can be utilized to reconstruct the rail routes which linked not only the towns of the piney woods, but also outside markets.¹²

The Ingram-Day Lumber Company Photographs represent another smaller collection which could be invaluable to the researcher attempting to locate period photos of the lumber boom. The Ingram-Day Lumber Company, once located in Lyman, Mississippi, is the scene of several of the twenty-nine black and white photographs which comprise the collection. The other photographs, taken in south Alabama from 1906-1921, depict examples of the types of pine harvested for the mills of the Ingram-Day Company.¹³

The Major-Sowers Photograph Collection illustrates the strength of the University of Southern Mississippi's images of the timber industry. Major and Sowers owned two different mills, one in Epley, Mississippi, between Sumrall and Hattiesburg, and the other, the Tallahala, located in Perry County. The twenty photographic images, all in black and white, depict scenes at the two main mills, and date between 1908 and 1929, the start and end of the operation of the Major-Sowers Lumber Company. In addition to an aerial view of the Tallahala location, several images include locomotives and equipment used in logging operations during the early twentieth century.¹⁴

Dr. Gilbert Hoffman rescued the J.J. Newman Lumber Company Records from an unused baggage car. The records include ledger accounts from the J.J. Newman Lumber Company, which operated in Hattiesburg, Mississippi from 1894 to 1943. The thirteen volumes include a variety of information, from accounts payable to cash journals. Although the journals do not cover every year of operation, the researcher can, however, get a view of business operations of an extensive timber operation at the turn of the century.¹⁵

A very small collection, the Weston Lumber Company Photographs consist of two oversized black and white images of the Weston Lumber Company Mill. The dates of the photographs are unknown, but are likely to fall between 1920 and 1924. The researcher seeking photographic or architectural information on mill operation in south Mississippi should not overlook the images.¹⁶

Although not photos of lumber mills or operations, the Association of American Railroads Collection at the University of Southern Mississippi can also provide the researcher with a plethora of information on the timber industry in the region. Consisting of records and background on several different South Mississippi lines, the extensive collections cover the Gulf, Mobile, and Ohio Railroad, the Mississippi Central Railroad, and the Illinois Central Railroad from roughly 1850-1966. The breadth and depth of the collections are extraordinary,

¹²Contents of the collection, Gilbert Hoffman Papers, Gilbert Hoffman Collection, McCain Library and Archives, The University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS.

¹³Finding aid, Ingram-Day Lumber Company Photographs, McCain Library and Archives, University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

¹⁴Finding aid, Major-Sowers Saw Mill Photographs, McCain Library and Archives, The University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, Mississippi.

¹⁵Contents of the collection, finding aid, J.J. Newman Lumber Company Records, McCain Library and Archives, The University of Southern Mississippi.

¹⁶Contents of the collection, finding aid, Weston Lumber Company Photographs, McCain Library and Archives, The University of Southern Mississippi.

and since most railroads, such as the Mississippi Central, a subsidiary of the J.J. Newman Lumber Company, were either owned or constructed in part by lumber interests, the collection can be an excellent source of factual information. Freight records, accounting logs, train schedules, and managerial memos are just a sample of the diverse information included in the collection. Since rail was the main method of transportation for much of the finished timber products, the researcher can use the railroad collections to reconstruct the hustle and bustle associated with rail and sawmill during the period.¹⁷

Recently processed and now open to researchers, the records of the United States Forest Service, Harrison Experimental Forest Station offer a wealth of information on both the timber industry, and reforestation efforts in the state. The station, founded in 1933 and located in Saucier, Mississippi, serves as a test area for pathology and genetics research of all southern pines. Photographs comprise the majority of the collection, with over two thousand images which span the period from 1921 until 1996. Forest pathology, lumber mills, hurricane damage, and Forest Service Annual Field days comprise the majority of the photographs, which are both color and black and white. Several aerial views of the station and surrounding Harrison County could also be invaluable to the researcher.

In addition to numerous photographs, the Harrison Experimental Forest Collection includes over one hundred slides of two different formats. Regular slides comprise the majority of images in the slide collection, but numerous three by five lantern slides are also found in the collection. The images are of lumber research, and span the period between 1930 and 1970.

Another particular strength of the collection is the maps and blueprints that accompany the Harrison materials. Numerous maps of the state's forests, dating to the early 1930's, as well as thorough maps of the station, are included. Several maps of the smaller McNeill Experimental Forest in McNeill Mississippi are also housed in the collection. Several manuscripts, booklets, and pamphlets detailing the history and formation of the station constitute important portions of the collection.¹⁸

In conclusion, succeeding generations of Mississippians utilized the forest resources of South Mississippi through different methods. The timber which now rises above the homes, businesses, and farms of the region, however, has also been greatly changed by the presence, and influence, of the residents who call the Piney Woods home. Only through further research, with accurate and factual sources, can the interaction between man and environment be fully understood. Future research, however, depends on a reliable research tool. By offering an archival bibliography of timber related resources, future researchers, and the librarians who assist them, can be better prepared for the task which lies ahead.

¹⁷Finding aid, contents of the collection. Railroad Collections, McCain Library and Archives, The University of Southern Mississippi. A detailed finding aid is located in the reference section of the Brooks Reading Room on the third floor. Since the collection is rather voluminous, researchers should refer to the finding aid for specific information.

¹⁸Reagan L. Grimsley, "The Study of Genetics or a Window to Culture: The Preservation of a Special Collection," term paper, August 1998. In possession of the author. See also finding aid, United States Forest Service, Harrison Experimental Forest Station Records, McCain Library and Archives, The University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, Mississippi. The author was responsible for the processing of the collection and the preparation of the finding aid.

**Mississippi Department of Archives and History
Local Government Records Office Update
Bill Hanna
Local Government Records Office**

Established in 1996 by the Mississippi Legislature, the Local Government Records Office of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History is responsible for providing records management assistance to local government officials.

During the past two years, the Local Government Records Office has focused on the development of records retention schedules for counties and municipalities, and assisting local governments in developing records inventories of extant records.

General retention schedules are now in place in eight functional areas for county government, fifteen functional areas for municipal government, five functional areas for school districts. In addition, locality specific retention schedules have been approved for five local governmental units. A total of 471 records series are now covered by approved retention schedules issued by the Local Government Records Office. Current appraisal activity is being conducted in several functional areas, including law enforcement/emergency services, election commissions, and several programmatic areas for municipalities. The Local Government Records Committee makes proposed retention schedules available for public comment for thirty days prior to their consideration. The committee is composed of seventeen officials representing state government, local government, research organizations, and the general public.

All approved retention schedules and proposed retention schedules for local governments are available at the web site of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (www.mdah.state.ms.us). The Local Government Records Office can be contacted at (601) 359-6894 or Post Office Box 571, Jackson, Mississippi 39205.

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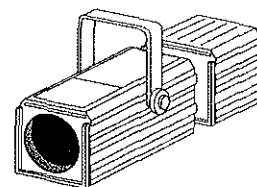
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Spotlight on Mississippi Archives



BILLUPS GARTH ARCHIVES COLUMBUS PUBLIC LIBRARY

An archives in a public library is somewhat unusual in Mississippi. Mrs. Douglas Bateman, long-time Columbus library director, has always had a strong commitment to local history. Under her direction, the library staff has collected Columbus history for many years. In 1981, the Margaret Latimer Buckley Room was established through a memorial gift from Dr. George Buckley in honor of his wife. This room houses the library's printed historical and genealogical materials as well as census microfilm and microfilmed newspapers. In addition to a wealth of published Columbus material, the researcher can also find books and periodicals on most counties in Mississippi and Alabama and varied amounts of information for many others states. Genealogists from throughout the United States visit the library and are most appreciative of the many resources available.

The Billups-Garth Archives was established in 1992 when the library was the recipient of a major gift from the Snowdown Foundation. This gift allowed for the considerable enlargement of the local history area and the purchase of moveable shelving to house non-current, Lowndes County public records assigned to the library's custody. These records include estate papers from the 1830s to the late 1800s, docket books, minute books, voter registration rolls, land assessments rolls, school records, and the original registers of historic Friendship Cemetery. Two of the most interesting items are the minute book (1835-1853) of Franklin Academy and its accompanying account book. Franklin Academy was established as a public school in 1821, and a school bearing its name is still operational and located on the same piece of land as the original school.

In addition to the county records, the archives also houses approximately 2000 black and white photographs, 300 inventoried manuscript collections, over 200 maps, Columbus family files, and over 100 scrapbooks. A large number of subject files cover many aspects of life in Columbus including businesses, religion, buildings, organizations, government, and education. A particularly popular group of files are the ones on Columbus' historic homes.

The focus of the archives is, quite naturally, to collect and preserve materials which tell the story of Columbus from the earliest days to the present. Columbus residents have a keen interest in their history. We often receive contributions of manuscript materials and are quite busy providing reference service in person and by mail. We also work with students attending the Mississippi School for Math and Science as they conduct research in Columbus history. In the fall of 1999, approximately 100 of these students are using materials from the Archives for their research. Their projects will culminate in two programs, Tales from the Crypt,

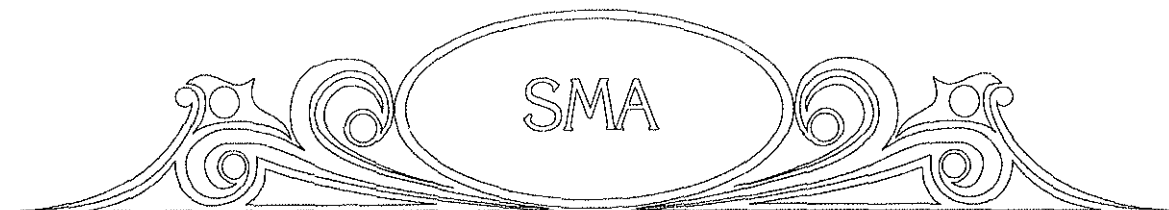
performed during Columbus Spring Pilgrimage and the Columbus City Block Project. The students are responding well to this opportunity to use primary sources.

Columbus Pilgrimage has occupied a prominent place in Columbus history for the past sixty years. The first Pilgrimage was in 1940. During World War II and for a few years afterward, the Pilgrimage was suspended. It began again in 1950. The Pilgrimage manuscript collection, published materials, clipping files and ball programs tell the story of the yearly event in which many Columbians take part. The materials include descriptions of houses on tour. Some of these homes no longer exist so the information is particularly important. Other homes remain but are no longer on the Pilgrimage tour.

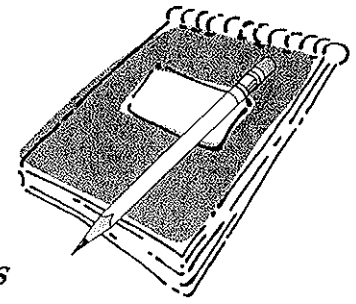
Another emphasis is a fledgling oral history effort. A grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council allowed us to have an oral history workshop in the fall of 1996. Since that time, the archivist has conducted several interviews with local octogenarians. Most of them are Columbus natives or long-time residents. An interview with a former WAC who served as a telephone operator in France during World War II provides a change of pace. This interviewee became so interested that she interviewed several World War II veterans of her acquaintance. A few of these interviews have been transcribed.

Sometimes we feel like we are neither fish nor fowl in our archives in a public library. Our staff of two must handle all the work in the genealogy, local history, and archives areas. One thing is for certain: We are never bored!

Do you have a person, project, or institution you would like to highlight in a future issue of the journal? Contact the editor at irmgard.wolfe@usm.edu



Reports



Observations from The Northeast Document Conservation Center sponsored conference

School for Scanning: Issues of Preservation and Access for Paper-Based Collections held in New Orleans, December 7 through 9, 1998

Reported by Jennifer Ford, Special Collections Librarian, JD Williams Library, University of Mississippi.

"Why are we planning a digitization project?" Various presenters echoed this question first posed by Jan- Merrill Oldham of Harvard University on the first day of the conference. Of course the answer to this question can only be found within the confines of individual institutions. The answer depends on many unique factors; the reasoning behind the project, the needs of the patrons, and the structure of the organization. Although these factors are inherently unique, the need for some standardization did emerge as a pivotal feature of the conference.

Three themes seemed to dominate most every session, no matter how technical or theoretical; the need to plan for digitization, the need to maintain commitment to the program (which involves much more than one might imagine), and the need for collaboration within your own institution and among other organizations. Planning involves knowing the strengths and weaknesses of your collection. Making sure that you have adequate control over your collections is the first step in this process. Diane Vogt-O'Connor from the National Park Service emphatically stated, "digitization is not helpful if a collection is not organized." From this point planning requires many other steps; selection, indexing, quality control, conversion, just to name a few.

Commitment requires funding and attention to data migration. If the digital images cannot be accessed in the future because the software they were created with is obsolete, then what have you accomplished? The rate of changing technologies forces the need for attention to data migration.

Collaboration between departments and institutions is essential in the construction of a viable and durable digitization project. As we are ever more aware, we do not exist in a vacuum, and it is the sharing of information which will most benefit our own organizations and patrons.

Planning, commitment, and collaboration working simultaneously serve as the ideal foundation for a digitization project. These concepts become more valuable when placed in the context of key presentations.

Individual Presentations

Dr. Howard Besser, Visiting Associate Professor at the School of Information Management and Systems at The University of California at Berkeley, began the conference with a session entitled "Project Planning for Digitization: Where Are We And Where Are We Going?" He pointed out that most of the costs of such projects are not incurred in the initial

expense for equipment but emerge over time in the cost of indexing and cataloging. According to Dr. Besser the long-term costs of digitization programs are really unknown. Standardization promoting the interoperability of various systems would provide a partial solution. If standards in image quality, indexing, and software could be maintained then migration might not be needed as frequently.

Diane Vogt-O'Connor, the Senior Archivist in the Museum Management Program at the National Park Service, provided a practical program for digitization of materials. As her earlier quote indicates she insists on well-maintained and organized collections as a prerequisite for any thoughts about digitization. Jumping into digitization simply because it is new, fun, or faddish is not going to provide any usable information for patrons. In terms of funding, she maintained that "money should not be taken from the preservation of originals to fund a digitization project."

Her system of image/object selection is quite practical. Weeding based on copyright concerns would be the first step. Then the process of selection of several images from the main collection or within one collection for possible digitization can begin. Looking at each image with respect to value, use, and preservation risk she rates each item numerically, one being the lowest value and 6 the highest. Value includes both monetary and artifactual value. Those items with the highest scores are candidates for immediate digitization.

Jan Merrill-Oldham, the Malloy-Rabinowitz Preservation Librarian in the Preservation Center at Harvard University, based her session entitled "Selection for Preservation and Access in the Digital Age" around the question previously cited, "Why are we doing this anyway?" Beyond the humorous implications this question is a valid one. As Merrill-Oldham pointed out there are several reasons behind digitization projects and each requires different controls. If preservation of the original item is your goal then a balance between image quality and access must be found. Patrons must be satisfied with reproductions and be able to retrieve them in a timely manner. On the other hand, if it is simply access your institution wants then image quality might be sacrificed for speed. Many institutions create archival quality digital images which require a great deal of disk storage space and attention to detail. One can see how easily this question can become complicated.

Copyright and other legal issues were the focus of the lecture by Melissa Smith Levine, of the National Digital Library Project at the Library of Congress. As she pointed out, librarians and archivists are increasingly forced to become legal experts about this difficult issue. Although the topic is complex her basic instructions were straightforward. First determine if the item is in the public domain or who has copyright. This can be the most difficult part of the process, but projects sponsored by various institutions (like the WATCH project sponsored by the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center at The University of Texas at Austin and the University of Reading Library, Reading, England) make the issue of locating copyright holders increasingly less difficult. Then, either get permission, with the possibility of permission fees, or do not make the item available digitally for public access. Another important piece of advice is that you must document everything and maintain good record files.

Stephen Chapman, Preservation Librarian for Digital Projects in the Preservation Center at Harvard University, provided an outline for an ideal project in his lecture entitled "Textual Scanning: Quality Control and Costs." First of all he stated that, "you must be able to answer why digitization is better for your particular project, why is digitization better in this case than photocopying or microfilming?" The issue of starting a digitization project with an eye to its end

result also emerged as an interesting part of the lecture. Mr. Chapman did provide a somewhat daunting list of individuals needed for a viable digitization project; a project manager, systems analyst, selector, legal counsel, conservator, catalogers, scanning technicians, and an interface designer.

One of the most personally encouraging and informative sessions was that of Roy Tennant, Project Manager for Digital Library Research and Development at the University of California, Berkeley. His session entitled, "Web Applications: Berkeley Digital Library SunSITE" in fact turned into a "how to" session for what he termed "the least you can get by with." His point, that most institutions do not have the fairly enormous financial and staff resources of the larger universities, was quite valid. He explained a plan that was viable for many smaller organizations.

First, the decision to provide a system characterized by collection level or item level access must be made. The schematics for access in each case are quite different and will affect many parts of your digitization project (indexing, user interface, systems design). His list of the hardware and software for "the least you can get by with" was practical. First he started with the basics, a computer and a decent flat bed scanner (approximate cost of the scanner \$200-\$500). Adobe Photoshop software is necessary for any scanning program (cost approximately \$300 +/-). "About twice as much RAM as you think" is also a necessity, according to Tennant (approximate cost \$200 +/-). Greyscale targets can be purchased for about \$20.00 and are invaluable in the data they help provide about the shading and color of a digital image. Two optional time saving items he listed are OCR (Optical Character Recognition) software (approximate cost \$200) and a sheet feeder (approximate cost \$200).

The standards Tennant listed for item capture were also very specific and practical. Item capture in the 600 dpi range at 24-36 bit saved as an uncompressed TIFF Group 4 file provides an acceptable image for the archival purposes of a small institution. In terms of image quality, again it is up to the institution to decide if their goals are access preservation, or a combination of the two.

His discussion of the least metadata an institution could get by with was a bit more vague because this depends on the institution, and the national standards (or lack thereof) for metadata are nebulous. He cited an example of a project he conducted at Berkeley called the Cataloging Enrichment Project. Students scanned the table of contents and indexes of categories of works. Then OCR software "read" the document, but it was not hand corrected because of time constraints. Only the title was embedded in the image, and, in terms of metadata, a unique identification number and the indicator were the only items listed.

Tennant listed several database software brand names which translate well for a small institution. SPRITE, SWISH -Enhanced, MYSQL, Ms. Access or Filemaker Pro, Oracle or Sybase were among those listed. He did not endorse one in particular but stated that "often the right database solution is the easiest one."

Other individuals lectured on various related topics, but within the limits of my own situation I felt that these six people provided an outline of what is required for a workable digitization project. "Workable" in this sense means a project where planning, commitment, and collaboration combine effectively.

Apropos the 1999 Rare Books and Manuscripts Preconference in Montreal.
Reported by Jennifer Ford, Special Collections Librarian, JD Williams Library,
University of Mississippi.

Montreal provided an appropriate backdrop for the 1999 RBMS Preconference and its theme, "Border Crossings: Exploring New Territories for Special Collections." The idea of physically crossing geographical borders coupled nicely with mentally crossing new borders in the profession. The Preconference began as a general introduction to this section of ALA. It turned into an intense three days of intellectual stimulation, leaving me with many more questions afterwards than before it began.

The Conference officially began on Monday, but for those who arrived early a tour to Ottawa had been planned. We visited the National Gallery of Canada, where a wonderful exhibit of Van Gogh and Honore Daumier provided quite a bit of visual enjoyment. Housed in the same building as the National Gallery is the Canadian Center for the Visual Arts, the Library and Archives for the National Gallery. We also visited the National Library of Canada, viewing a exhibit of Canadian imprints and the "ordinary" use of the book in Canada.

Looking back over the sessions of the conference, several seem especially vivid. Professor Jean-Claude Guedon of the University of Montreal, Kathy Henderson of the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Center, and H. Thomas Hickerson of Cornell each opened the conference proper with an eye-opening discussion of what working with information in special formats entails in the electronic age. Kathy Henderson's discussion seemed especially intriguing since she outlined the difficulties and the advantages of the changing "outreach" programs of archives, museums, and libraries. Her discussion of the dilemmas resulting from the clashes between the traditional "private face" versus the emerging "public face" of libraries and archives, was illuminating. The discussion was satisfying although she was not able to provide any answers, only examples of what other institutions had done. These examples emphasized that outreach programs must strike a balance between the planning and control aspects of the work and the desire to serve both the established and any emerging patron base.

Michel Brisebois' short paper entitled, "Going Back to Basics: New Approaches for the Exhibition Curator," provided the background behind the exhibit many of us had been able to view in Ottawa at the Bibliotheque Nationale du Canada. His idea was interesting: an exhibition consisting of ordinary books and materials used by ordinary people on a frequent basis instead of the more standard "treasures" theme of exhibiting. By placing the items thoroughly in their historical context, Brisebois felt that longer captions were necessary. The attention to provenance would emphasize the group of people using the material versus the individual use.

John Pull of the Library of Congress, presented an fascinating short paper entitled, "The 15-Inch Diagonal Reading Room: Selecting and Presenting Digital Collections." He began the discussion with a list of the limitations most institutions face; limited money, limited amounts of time, and the restrictions of the 15 inch diagonal computer monitor. Pull suggested beginning a trial digitization project with a physically small item. The size of the item will not provide as many problems as larger ones, and this would make the learning curve for an initial digitization attempt much easier. He outlined five steps in the digitization process; selection, development, production, presentation, and maintenance. Under the heading of "selection"

Mr. Pull offered several common-sense suggestions, "Pick an item you are proud of, pick an item that will benefit from the process, pick an item that is in the public domain, and pick an item that is not too fragile to withstand the process." Under the headings of "development, production, and presentation" Mr. Pull provided this advice which he pinpointed as the main point of his presentation, "Identify the limitations of the medium, determine those that will change and those that will not (in your informed estimation) and embrace the limits." The section on "maintenance" offered a much longer term challenge than the others. The key to maintenance, according to Pull, is to constantly plan for changes. A plan for digital conversion must be established along with a digitization project in order to ensure the preservation of the work. Pull stated that, "In the past maintenance has been historically passive but new transfer of electronic media forces a new approach."

Although Matthew Nickerson of Southern Utah University was not able to attend the conference, his paper on his institution's efforts in the combining of technologies for manuscript cataloging and display was read by the moderator. This paper chronicled Southern Utah's combination of existing hardware and software for an altogether new approach in cataloging, preservation, and display. They combined Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML), his library's Online Public Access Catalog (OPAC), the World Wide Web, and Digitization. The SGML and the web base access to the archives were available through the library's web site and the MARC records provided an integrated system with searching capabilities. This led to the last paper of this session which concerned encoded archival description.

Susan Hamburger of Pennsylvania State University presented a fascinating yet intricate paper entitled, "Controlled Vocabulary, Standardized Terminology, or Keyword Searching: Access to Archival and Manuscript Collections via EAD Finding Aids on the Web." In this presentation Ms. Hamburger reported on her study of the finding aids of forty institutions both in the United States, Canada, and England. Within that list she found twenty-five implementers of EAD finding aids and fifteen possible implementers. She then narrowed the search into a discussion of how the finding aids were delivered; via SGML or HTML. Most of the institutions favored straight HTML coding, but the use of conversion methods and viewers like "Panorama" and "DynaWeb" was growing. The results of the display of finding aids were also interesting. The majority of those studied favored an alphabetical list, then a topical list. Many incorporated both lists. Only one institution used a catalog record with an 856 link. One had an unordered list of finding aids.

Ms. Hamburger's final conclusions are illuminating for those interested in EAD. She found that the majority of institutions for subject headings and name authority relied heavily on the OPAC with inconsistent use of terms, terms omitted, and lack of coding for source of terms. She felt that within encoded finding aids archivists need to adopt cataloging principles for more standardization.

The 1999 RBMS Preconference combined the traditional concerns of Special Collection librarians with many untested and new concerns. This can be an uneasy combination, but it is also one which fosters the growth of the profession.



Annual Meeting of the Society of American Archivists

Reported by Sandra Boyd, Paper Archives Branch Director, MDAH.

The 63rd annual meeting of the Society of American Archivists (SAA) was held in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, at the Hilton and Towers from August 23-29, 1999. The theme of the conference was "Meeting the Challenge of Contemporary Records." This year's meeting included tours to Frank Lloyd Wright's house, "Fallingwater," to the National Underground Storage facility in Boyers, and to the WRS Motion Picture and Video Laboratory, as well as sessions on legal and copyright issues, new approaches to record scheduling, appraisal, and cataloging, and other "contemporary" topics. The exhibits area was moderate in size but well-attended during the two days it was open. For the first time, several exhibitors participated in a "Supplier Forum," which gave them an opportunity to focus on a single topic in a half-hour session with attendees. At the Business Meeting, SAA members voted to increase dues 7% and defeated a proposal for the SAA Council to raise dues in the future.

Session Reports

"Administering Privacy and Confidentiality in Sensitive Records"

Ben Primer and Janet Linde discussed handling records of the American Civil Liberties Union and Sandra E. Boyd presented a paper on the Mississippi Sovereignty Commission records. [Note: most of Boyd's information was contained in the previous issue of *TPS* and will not be repeated here.]

From 1921-1950, "bound volumes" of records of ACLU records were sent to the New York Public Libraries. In 1950 NYPL decided not to keep originals but to microfilm and throw the originals away. The ACLU decided to ask Princeton about becoming their depository, and Princeton said they were interested. In 1960, ACLU began to send only press releases and minutes but not the correspondence or administrative memos. FBI files relating to ACLU cases were closed. In the 1980s the ASLU was asked to endorse the American Library Association Statement of Access to Original Records, but this was the first attention to the question of access. Meanwhile, records at the ACLU continued to increase, and in the early 1990s an NHPRC project was proposed to develop a new access policy to the records. The project was funded, and Janet Linde was hired as archivist in October 1993. She immediately began working on the access policy. Some of the issues involved legal case files, affiliate records, and administrative records. ACLU does not want donor records open, and personnel matters and internal policy matters were also of concern. The Organization of American Historians has looked at a policy of 50 years or death as a guide to access for lawyer's files but has taken no action on the policy. Linde, Primer, and the ACLU Board have worked out an access policy, but it has not been tested in court. Also, several recent cases have affected the existing policy, specifically the Vince Foster case which said that attorney-client privilege succeeded the life of the client, and the client should have access to all the files of their case, and the Alger Hiss case.

"Who Has the Record: The Role of Descriptive Standards in Providing Access to Archival Information in Union Databases" Susie Bock, Steve Hensen, and Bill Landis.

Susie Bock described her study of 364 websites which have mounted finding aids. She

found that finding aids have not been created with standardized terms. Most finding aids are flat files, and many are being marked up in HTML so they can be searched. Her study indicates a need for standards in archival data.

Steve Hensen and Bill Landis both spoke about projects designed to develop standards. Hensen talked about AACR2 and APPM which were designed to support data standards. He also referred to EAD which has particular value in creating union databases. An international study committee is looking at the elements of the Canadian RAD as a possible data standard. Landis discussed standards developed in the Online Archives of California. Hensen and Landis both emphasized the need for content standards for finding aids.

"Records Schedules: They Aren't Just for Records Managers Anymore"

Weston Thompson, Richard Cox, and Rachel Van Wingen

Thompson began the session by pointing out that records scheduling supports the goals of most archival programs - the process identifies records, analyzes retention period and who will handle the records, and should include research potential and legal requirements. All of this should be looked at before records come to the archives. Records scheduling helps by doing much of the work at the appraisal level, by promoting transfers of records, by building alliances between records creators and archivists, and by distributing responsibility for the records. With the new formats for records, Thompson identified several new skill areas needed by records managers/archivists: functional decomposition, system metadata, data dictionaries, format requirements, and system migration.

Richard Cox began his session by stating that we all know what records schedules are and what they are supposed to do, then asking "but are they working?" There is a different perspective between the records managers and archivists. The records manager uses the schedule to inventory, identify, and dispose of records. Schedules do not lead to preservation of archival records and frequently do not enable record economy and efficiency.

Cox offered the following steps to rethink schedules:

1. Records are important for accountability, organizational memory, evidence, socio-cultural understanding. Therefore, schedules should be about more than disposal and potential litigation; there should be focus on historical research.
2. Records and organizations change. This change (for example, to electronic recordkeeping) should be reflected by the records preserved.
3. Records professionals change. The person may become more of a policy maker, with there being distributed custody for records. Archivists and records managers may become more similar in their work, more like "records professionals" and eventually "knowledge workers."
4. Appraisal approaches are key to good scheduling. This is a process that has been fluid in recent years. Previously, the records creator determined the appraisal. More recently, documentation strategies and evidential and informational values have been used in the appraisal process, along with functional analysis and macro-appraisal.

According to Cox, the foundation for a new approach to scheduling should be a records continuum which does not chase after records but develops with them. The records process should be documented with lists and explanations, with de-emphasis on surveying. The emphasis should be on the key functions of the organization and keeping records to support them.

Rachel Van Wingen, speaking from the perspective of the records creator, explained the pressures on Federal offices and their need to do business faster and smarter. Therefore, she emphasized that records schedules must work for people in the process of creating and receiving documents and data. She emphasized the need to document the function of the office and stressed that records managers and archivists must work together with practioners to appraise and preserve records. Otherwise, there will be no "grist" for the archivists' mill.

Legislative Reports

News from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History

Elbert R. Hilliard

November 8, 1999

Two major initiatives funded by the 1999 Mississippi Legislature will be of great benefit to the state's historical community. The Mississippi Landmark Grant Program establishes a new source of funds to help owners of Mississippi Landmark properties that need repair or restoration. And the Mississippi Oral History Project enables the Oral History Center at the University of Southern Mississippi to broaden its effort to collect and preserve the history and culture of the state.

Mississippi Landmark Grant Program

Since the passage of the State Antiquities Act in 1970, the Department of Archives and History has designated as Mississippi Landmarks hundreds of historically significant properties around the state, most of them publicly owned. Changes to these properties may not be made without the approval of the Department's permit committee. In the past the Department of Archives and History has been unable to offer state-funded grant assistance to local governments and organizations to help preserve endangered Mississippi Landmarks. Now for the first time, the state has established a source of funds that will help ensure the preservation of these historically significant properties.

House Bill No. 1082, signed into law March 29, 1999, provides that the interest earned on \$10,000,000 from the abandoned property fund in the state treasury will be earmarked for the Mississippi Landmark Grant Program. It is estimated that the annual interest will amount to approximately \$500,000. With a proposed four-year grant cycle, there would be at least two million dollars in the grant fund. A portion of this amount will be reserved for emergencies and to permit the fund to grow. The rest of the funds will be awarded as grants to assist owners of Mississippi Landmark properties in preserving these historic sites. For more information, please call (601) 359-6940.

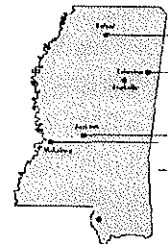
Mississippi Oral History Project

This past June the Department of Archives and History, the Mississippi Humanities Council, and the University of Southern Mississippi joined forces to initiate the Mississippi Oral History Project. During the first phase of the project, staff members from the Oral History Center at USM will teach local people at each of five sites around the state how to set up oral history projects in their community. In the second year of the project, the interviews collected in each community will be transcribed and deposited in the archives at the University of Southern Mississippi.

The following institutions have been selected to participate in the pilot project: the Northeast Mississippi Historical & Genealogical Society in Tupelo, the Capps Archives at Delta State University in Cleveland, the Noxubee County Public Library in Macon, the Lauren Rogers Museum in Laurel, and the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College and Community Bridges in Biloxi. Other nonprofit groups will participate in the oral history program through grants administered by the Mississippi Humanities Council.

The Mississippi Oral History Project is funded by the Mississippi Legislature through the Department of Archives and History, sponsored by the Mississippi Humanities Council, and coordinated by the University of Southern Mississippi Center for Oral History and Cultural Heritage. For more information, please call (601) 266-4574.

The Year in Mississippi



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI:

THE 35TH ANNIVERSARY OF FREEDOM SUMMER, JUNE 4-7, 1999

The University of Southern Mississippi commemorated the 35th anniversary of Mississippi Freedom Summer 1964 with an extended week-end of special activities on the Hattiesburg campus on June 4-7, 1999.

The Mississippi Summer Project was the brainchild of legendary Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC) Field Secretary Robert Moses, who hoped to garner the grass-roots support of Americans for voting rights for Black Mississippians. He did. It worked. Freedom Summer was the turning-point of the Civil Rights Movement in the South.

Under the administration of the Council of Federated Organizations (COFO), led by Dr. Aaron Henry, president of the conference of Mississippi NAACP chapters, and with the participation of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) and Dr. Martin Luther King's Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), Robert Moses and CORE's Dave Dennis organized

the arrival, physical safety, and activities in some 50 Mississippi towns and cities of approximately 1,000 volunteers from outside the state.

The segregationists called them "outside agitators" and the summer began with the disappearance of civil rights workers Michael Schwerner, James Chaney, and Andrew Goodman outside Philadelphia. Their murdered bodies would not be located until August.

The volunteers came anyway. They came from all over the United States and several foreign countries. They were mostly white, mostly college-age, and sufficiently well-funded not to have to earn a living during the summer and to provide bail money in case they were arrested by local police. They first attended one of several SNCC orientation sessions held in late June and then drove into Mississippi to work all of July and August, carrying out COFO's four objectives: doing voter registration canvassing, teaching in the Freedom Schools, working in community centers which they established, and assisting with musical and theatrical performances and art instruction programs.

They were housed, fed, and protected by local African Americans, in whose communities COFO established their headquarters or Freedom Houses and whose churches were the focal points of mass meetings, voter registration workshops, Freedom Schools, and Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party (MFDP) meetings. The local Black activists knew what they wanted — the effective implementation of their right to vote — and the college-age Black and White SNCC Field Secretaries were gifted facilitators of their efforts and those of the volunteers.

The largest Freedom Summer site was Hattiesburg, with over 90 volunteers, 3,000 local participants, and 650-675 Freedom School students — so many that Freedom School Director Dr. Staughton Lynd of Yale University called Hattiesburg "the Mecca of the Freedom School world."

In the thirty-five years since Freedom Summer, several reunions of volunteers and local activists have been held. In Mississippi, Tougaloo College and Jackson State University have been the sites of commemorative celebrations and symposia. In June 1999, the University of Southern Mississippi, whose main campus is located in Hattiesburg, sponsored and coordinated with two local African American churches a week-end of celebrations honoring the local activists and volunteers of Mississippi Freedom Summer.

The catalyst was the donation to the USM Archives in 1998 of 1,759 negatives of photographs taken of Freedom Summer activities by New Yorker Herbert Randall, who spent his 1964 John Hay Whitney Foundation fellowship in creative photography in Hattiesburg at the invitation of SNCC Field Secretary and COFO-Hattiesburg Project Director Sandy Leigh. The Archives printed over 800 8"x10" prints, which, with the negatives, comprise the Herbert Randall Freedom Summer Photograph Collection in the USM Archives. Other examples of Randall's work are in the permanent collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art, and other prominent American museums. Most of his Freedom Summer photographs have never been seen before.

The extended week-end of Freedom Summer celebrations began on Friday, June 4, as USM's honored guests and visitors began arriving at area airports. They were Herbert Randall and his wife Rosalind from Long Island, New York, and their son Dana from Worcester, Massachusetts; Mississippi civil rights leader Victoria Gray-Adams, a native of Hattiesburg, coming from her home in Virginia; former COFO-Hattiesburg staff SNCC Field Secretaries Sandy Leigh and Sheila Michaels from Alabama and New York; and Dr. John Dittmer, De Pauw

University historian and author of the classic 1994 study of the civil rights movement in Mississippi *Local People*. Some came early to do oral history interviews with Dr. Charles Bolton and the staff of USM's Oral History Department; others to have plenty of time to visit the people and places they had known during Freedom Summer. Many had not returned to Hattiesburg or the South since 1964.

On Saturday USM President Horace Fleming and Mrs. Fleming hosted a dinner for our guests, which included participants in a Freedom Summer symposium to take place on Monday. Moderated by Dr. Dittmer, the symposium featured Hattiesburg activists — sixties Forrest County NAACP President and Secretary J.C. Fairley and Daisy Harris Wade, MFDP Secretary-Treasurer Peggy Jean Connor, Youth Coordinator of the Hattiesburg and Palmer's Crossing Freedom Schools Doug Smith, and MFDP candidate for the U.S. Senate Victoria Gray-Adams — and former SNCC Field Secretaries Sheila Michaels and Curtis Hayes Muhammad, CORE's man in Mississippi Dave Dennis, and Rev. Bob Beech, Director of the Hattiesburg Ministers Project.

Visitors to USM — former SNCC staff, Freedom School teachers, community center and voter registration workers — came from as far away as Minnesota, California, New York, and London, England. Some had revisited Hattiesburg periodically over the years; some had not been back since 1964; most had remained in touch with their African American hosts. Some stayed in local motels, rooming with the same roommates SNCC had assigned them for Freedom Summer; some stayed with the same African American families who had housed and fed them during the summer of 1964.

Sunday belonged to the churches. St. John's United Methodist Church in Palmer's Crossing, whose pastors and congregations have long played a prominent role in the civil rights movement, hosted everyone for a memorable morning church service and luncheon. That evening Mt. Zion Baptist Church, site of Freedom Schools and mass meetings, hosted a reception at which Dr. Cecil Gray, chairman of the African American Studies Department at Gettysburg College, spoke of the work of his mother Victoria Gray-Adams and others in the movement.

On Saturday and Sunday afternoons, guests and visitors gathered in the Cleanth Brooks Reading Room of the McCain Library and Archives to browse through Herbert Randall's photographs, enjoy the exhibit "Freedom Summer Revisited" curated by Archives Specialist Yvonne Arnold, and renew old acquaintances. Former SNCC staff Ira Grupper presented to the USM Archives the Ku Klux Klan warning sign posted on the property of Vernon Dahmer six months before the local African American civil rights leader was murdered by the Klan. Mr. Dahmer had given the sign to Mr. Grupper, who had preserved it since 1965. He very generously donated it to the Archives, which preserves the papers of the Vernon Dahmer family.

Sunday afternoon featured a walk down historic Mobile Street in the heart of Hattiesburg's formerly segregated Black community. Visitors gathered at the site of COFO's Freedom House at 507 Mobile Street and the headquarters of the Hattiesburg Ministers Project on the corner of 6th and Mobile Streets.

Monday June 7 was the culminating day of USM's commemoration of Freedom Summer. After a luncheon hosted by the USM Libraries, guests and visitors, faculty, students, the general public, and the media proceeded to the Mannoni Performing Arts Center for the Freedom Summer symposium. USM history professor Dr. Marjorie Wheeler, author of *One*

Woman, One Vote, served as emcee. After welcoming remarks by USM President Horace Fleming and Hattiesburg Mayor Ed Morgan, IHL Commissioner James Luvene presented a certificate of recognition of a life-time devoted to the cause of civil rights to Victoria Gray-Adams. Dr. Dittmer and the symposium participants discussed for the benefit of the audience, many of whom had not been born until after 1964, the background of Freedom Summer — why it had been necessary — and the success of the COFO-Hattiesburg project. The symposium, which was taped by USM's Oral History Department, was punctuated by repeated bursts of applause from the audience.

Toward the end of the symposium, actress Denise Nicholas, one of the original members of the civil rights repertory theater group the Free Southern Theater and familiar to television viewers from her work in the series *Room 222* and *In the Heat of the Night* was persuaded to come up on stage and share her perceptions.

Upon the conclusion of the symposium, everyone adjourned next door to the main gallery of the USM Museum of Art for the grand opening of the *Faces of Freedom Summer* exhibit, featuring 102 of Herbert Randall's photographs. The Museum is directed by Dr. Michael De Marsche, and the exhibit was partially funded by a grant from the Mississippi Humanities Council. The exhibit will remain at the USM Museum of Art through the end of October, after which it will travel to museums around the United States. The USM Museum of Art is open to the public Tuesday-Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Saturday 10:00 to 4:00 p.m.

June 4-7, 1999 was a special time for everyone involved in USM's Freedom Summer week-end. Who will host the 40th anniversary reunion in 2004?

Bobs Tusa, University Archivist

MISSISSIPPI DEPARTMENT OF ARCHIVES AND HISTORY

This year the Archives has focused on preparing for the construction of the new building. In fall 1998, plans were first drawn for the five story building that will be located on the hill across Amite Street from the War Memorial Building. After these drawings were reviewed, William Lull, consultant on environmental issues, came to Jackson to meet with staff and architects; he also toured the existing building looking at collection needs.

Following Lull's visit and submission of a report, some portions of the new building plans were modified in early 1999. Later in the year, the front of the building was redesigned to orient it more closely with the buildings on Capitol Green (War Memorial, Old Capitol, and Capers Buildings). During the spring, summer, and fall, the staff has spent time studying catalogs and making lists of furniture and equipment needed in the new facility, assessing collections to get them ready to move, and processing and describing materials for improved access.

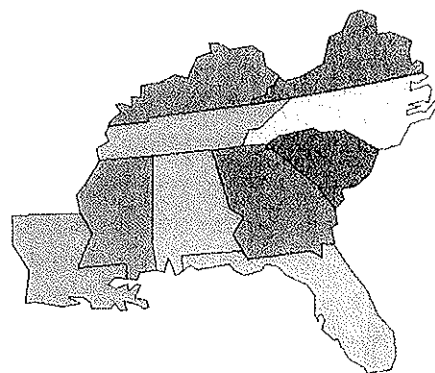
A set of "final" plans (prepared for the advertisement of the project) was made available to the staff in mid-November. Construction bids are scheduled to be opened on December 16, and at that time we will know the timetable for groundbreaking and construction.

The department is also working to make its web page more accessible, and after the new year several databases and other data files should be available for searching.

Sandra Boyd, MDAH

Preservin' the South

Preservation News by Christine Wiseman
Education Officer,
SOLINET Preservation Field Services



ASTM Natural Aging Research

In 1998 the American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) launched a century-long study of the effects of natural aging on printing and writing papers. For the next 100 years, ten North American libraries situated in a variety of climates will store volumes of 15 experimental paper types and submit monthly and yearly storage condition reports to the Library of Congress and National Archives and Records Administration. At ten intervals throughout the century, specimen pages will be extracted from each site and tested for optical and physical durability.

This project will determine whether accelerated aging test results achieve similar results to that of natural aging; and therefore allowing scientists to reliably predict the life expectancy of various papers. It will also enable paper manufacturers to ensure that their product meets the needs of the research community's requirements.

Preliminary findings report that paper ages faster in stacks than as single sheets. Additionally, in natural aging tests daylight is more damaging than artificial light. For further information contact Bruce Arnold, (R.B. Arnold Associates, 130 W. Lancaster Ave., Suite 301, Wayne, PA 19087-4031, 610-964-9757) chair of ASTM's paper aging research program.

Spanish Translation of NEDCC manual now online.

Preservation of Library and Archival Materials: A Manual is a key resource of practical information about the care and preservation of library and archives collections. The Manual, an assortment of technical leaflets grouped by subjects such as emergency management and storage and handling, provides concise, up-to-date information at your fingertips.

The Northeast Document Conservation Center announces that the Spanish translation of the Manual is now available online at NEDCC's website <www.nedcc.org>. This translation makes a core collection of preservation literature available for the first time in Spanish.

SAA's Selected Readings in Preservation 1997/1998 on the Web

The Society of American Archivists Preservation Section has posted the recently released Selected Readings in Preservation 1997/1998 on its website <<http://dlis.gseis.ucla.edu/saapreserv/prindex.htm>>. It is an annotated list of selected sources released in a given calendar year on archival preservation. Selected Readings in Preservation contains books, reports, periodicals, and articles in English that relate to archival preservation. Geared to the general archives community, it is designed to serve as a convenient reference to selected sources. It is not intended to be comprehensive. To the extent possible, citations include the cost of and instructions for ordering publications.

New Standard for Library Binding Approved

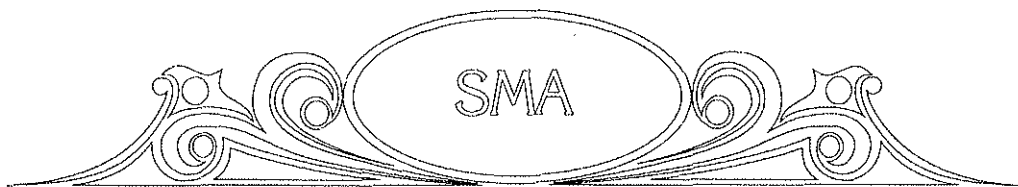
The National Information Standards Organization (NISO) recently announced that the proposed Standard for Library Binding has been approved. The final text of the new standard is now at press; it will be published in early 2000. The old 1986 standard was developed collaboratively by binders and preservation librarians. It abolished the use of "oversewing" and outlined specifications for a variety of accepted leaf attachment methods. The new standard is jointly sponsored by NISO and the Library Binding Institute (LBI) and is performance based rather than materials based. It is the result of seven years of research to develop performance measures and specifications for library binding to complement industry-developed manufacturing specifications for library binding materials. The standard applies to the hard cover binding and re-binding of library-owned books, periodicals, and pamphlets and the prebinding of books for sale to libraries.

Website on Preserving Access to Digital Information Expanded

In response to a growing recognition of the need to safeguard digital heritage, the National Library of Australia established its Preserving Access to Digital Information (PADI) website in 1997. The site <www.nla.gov.au/padi/> was recently updated and expanded into a comprehensive "subject gateway" to information on digital topics. It has more powerful searching capability and a new maintenance program intended to keep the site up-to-date. In addition, a new discussion list, padiforum-l, has been established to exchange information on digital preservation issues. To subscribe to the list send an email message to listproc@nla.gov.au. In the first line of the message area type: subscribe padiforum-l [your name].

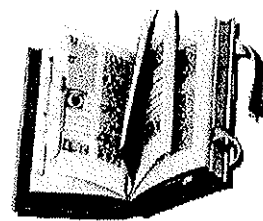
New NEH Outreach Grant Program

The National Endowment for the Humanities, Division of Preservation and Access is launching a new grant program to help libraries, archives, museums and historical societies assess need and enhance the preservation and access to their collections. The small grants, of up to \$5000, include support for preservation or conservation assessments, specialized consultations, attendance at training, purchase of supplies, equipment and storage furniture. Priority will be given to applicants from states identified as underserved by the Endowment. Southeastern states included are: Florida, Alabama, Louisiana and Puerto Rico. Guidelines scheduled to be available by February 1, 2000.



Accessions

1998-1999



Mississippi Department of Archives and History Manuscript Collection

ANONYMOUS JEFFERSON DAVIS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT PETITION. n. d. 0.10 c.f.
This collection consists of an unsigned, undated draft of a petition concerning the creation of a new school district in Jefferson Davis County, Mississippi. The petition is written on the stationery of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi, Free and Accepted Masons. As part of the letterhead, the lodge membership totals for twelve towns in southern Mississippi are recorded. The letterhead bears the date of 1908. Transferred from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History Library, Jackson, Mississippi

BARKSDALE (BATTLE M.) MEMOIR. 1999. 0.10 c.f.

This memoir written by Battle M. Barksdale of Jackson, Mississippi, covers major events in his life from his childhood in Vaiden, Mississippi, through his retirement from his work as a stockbroker at Merrill Lynch. His account provides details of his military career in the United States Army, including his service in both theatres of war during World War II, and in Korea. Barksdale also discusses his views on social issues such as segregation. Presented by Battle M. Barksdale, Jackson, Mississippi

BOECKMAN FAMILY PAPERS. 1946-1955. 2.45 c.f.

The papers consist of the correspondence of Richard Joseph Boeckman and his wife, Frances Blissard Boeckman, of Jackson, Mississippi. Written during their courtship and marriage, the letters not only record family and social news, but document the service of Richard Boeckman in the United States Army during the Korean War. Also included is a photograph commemorating the wedding of the Boeckmans. Presented by Frances B. Boeckman, Jackson, Mississippi

BROCK CHEVROLET COMPANY (BELZONI, MISS.) RECORDS. ca. 1947-1961. 4.14 c.f.

The financial records of the Brock Chevrolet Company, of Belzoni, Mississippi, include an accounting manual; customer account books; general ledgers; and journals containing information on payroll, new and used car sales, interdepartmental sales, purchases, cash received and disbursed, and services provided by this Chevrolet and Oldsmobile sales and service company. Materials concerning Ideal Motors, Inc., of Jackson, Mississippi, are included. Presented by Dorothy Brock Brieger and Bettye Brock Armijos, Richland, Mississippi.

BUCCI (TACITUS R.) PAPERS. ca. 1934-1972. 0.23 c.f.

This collection of the papers of musician Tacitus R. Bucci include correspondence, legal documents, photocopies of programs and musical scores, and newsclippings. Born in Italy,

Bucci resided in Vicksburg, Mississippi, for more than forty years, and organized several high school bands in the area. Bucci also organized the first symphony orchestra of Jackson, Mississippi, and served as its conductor from 1936 to 1942. Presented by Andrew Bucci, Fort Washington, Maryland.

EISELE (FLORENCE LE CLERCQ) PAPERS. ca. 1931-1976. 0.60 c.f.

The papers of Florence Le Clercq Eisele of Natchez, Mississippi, consist of correspondence, photographs, newsclippings, and research materials. They primarily concern her genealogical research and interest in historical sites in the Natchez and Port Gibson, Mississippi, areas. Among the papers is correspondence received by Eisele from scientist and philanthropist Albert Schweitzer and his daughter. Presented on behalf of Clariece G. Fairly, Brandon, Mississippi.

GILBERT (NANCY COOPER) PAPERS. 1984. 0.33 c.f.

This collection of the papers of Nancy Cooper Gilbert of Brandon, Mississippi, includes correspondence, photographs, invitations, planning lists and notes, guest lists, published articles, and photocopies of newsclippings concerning the seventy-fifth birthday celebration of Eudora Welty, which was organized by Nancy Cooper Gilbert and took place on April 13, 1984. Presented by Nancy Cooper Gilbert, Brandon, Mississippi.

HEDERMAN FAMILY PAPERS. ca. 1900-1948. 0.90 c.f.

Financial reports, numerous photographs, manuscript and published histories, newspaper articles, and printing samples document the history of the Hederman Brothers printing company of Jackson, Mississippi. Photocopies of a scrapbook, film script, and building committee report provide evidence of the Hederman family's participation in the First Baptist Church of Jackson. A photocopy of a typescript diary of Jennie Taylor Hederman is also included. Presented by Zach T. Hederman, Jackson, Mississippi

HUDSON (WILLIAM SPENCER) DIARIES. ca. 1862-1973. 0.13 c.f.

This collection consists of two original diaries of William Spencer Hudson of Calhoun and Panola Counties, Mississippi, and a printed copy of the transcription of the diaries made and edited by Weldon I. Hudson in 1973. The diaries record the daily weather; personal and family news; religious and Masonic activities; as well as the details of Hudson's service in the Thirty-first Regiment, Mississippi Infantry, of the Confederate army. Presented by Weldon Hudson, Fort Worth, Texas.

JEFFERSON MILITARY COLLEGE RECORDS, ACCRETION. 1900. 0.15 c.f.

This accretion consists of one issue of *The Jeffersonian*, a magazine published by Jefferson Military College at Washington, Mississippi. This issue is dated July, 1900, and was published as Volume II, Number 10. Transferred from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History Official Records Section, Jackson, Mississippi

LOVE (THOMAS NEELY) DIARIES. 1846-1848. 0.25 c.f.

This collection consists of two diaries, the first and third volumes of a journal written by Thomas Neely Love, of Columbus, Mississippi, documenting his service as regimental surgeon

in the Second Regiment Mississippi Volunteer Infantry during the Mexican War. Also included in the collection are two copies of an annotated transcription of the third volume, created by Albert H. Spinks of Burlington, North Carolina. Presented on behalf of Dorothy Young Wilfong of Chevy Chase, Maryland, by Albert H. Spinks of Burlington, North Carolina.

LUCKETT (SEMMES) PAPERS. ca. 1961. 0.10 c.f.

These papers of lawyer Semmes Lockett of Clarksdale, Mississippi, concern the issue of Sixteenth Section school lands in Mississippi. The papers include a letter from Lockett to Mississippi state senator Kenneth O. Williams, and copies of a speech by Lockett, a history, and a proposed amendment to the Mississippi state constitution concerning the school lands. Presented by Kenneth O. Williams, Clarksdale, Mississippi.

MEGEE (JOHN T.) PAPERS. ca. 1861-1878. 0.10 c.f.

The papers of John T. Megee of Holmes County, Mississippi, consist primarily of originals and photocopies of letters written by John Megee to his wife, Eliza, during his service in the Fourth Mississippi Regiment of the Army of the Confederate States of America. These include family as well as military news, and discuss problems faced by the regiment. Also included in the collection are newsclippings printed on fabric and genealogical material. Presented by Peggy K. Jones, Laurel, Mississippi.

MILLER (W. NORTON) RESEARCH PAPERS. ca. 1961-1969. 0.25 c.f.

The papers of W. Norton Miller of Jackson, Mississippi, consist primarily of handwritten notes on and extracts from historical works on a variety of topics in Mississippi history. These topics include early colonization and territorial history; the Indians of Mississippi; the Natchez area; and the construction of the Old Capitol building and its transformation into a museum. Presented by Michael Hennen, Jackson, Mississippi

MISSISSIPPI HISTORICAL SOCIETY RECORDS, ACCRETION. ca. 1970-1996. 1.00 c.f.

This accretion to the records of the Mississippi Historical Society includes manuscripts submitted to the society for publication; minutes of society meetings; annual and financial reports; financial and membership records; and materials documenting meetings of the society. Presented by the Mississippi Historical Society, Jackson, Mississippi

MOUNT ZION PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HISTORY. ca. 1873-1966. 0.33 c.f.

This manuscript "History of Mount Zion Presbyterian Church" traces the history of Mount Zion Church in Choctaw County, Mississippi. It includes narratives summarizing meetings and functions of the church; lists of pastors, church officials, and members; and chapters on the activities of women and young people in the church. The manuscript is largely typescript, with some handwritten portions, and includes a newsclipping. Presented by Mildred D. Grissom, Germantown, Tennessee.

PAGE (JENNIE RUTH HAY) SCRAPBOOK. ca. 1926-1927. 0.13 c.f.

This scrapbook of Jennie Ruth Hay Page of Sardis, Mississippi, documents her term as a student at Grenada College, in Grenada, Mississippi. Included are inscriptions, photographs,

programs, social papers, newsclippings, and memorabilia reflecting student life in 1926 and 1927. Presented by Jacquelyn Seay Sergi, Batesville, Mississippi.

PRESTON (JAMES RHEA) PAPERS. ca. 1894. 0.10 c.f.

These papers consist of three items concerning Mississippi superintendent of education James Rhea Preston of Jackson, Mississippi. An original and a photocopy of a telegram sent by R. F. Preston from Abingdon, Virginia, refer to a trip made there by J. R. Preston. The papers also include an undated annotated typescript copy of an address made by J. R. Preston to the Southern Educational Association while he was president of that organization. Transferred from the library of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Mississippi

REYNOLDS (CHARLES F.) PAPERS. 1928-1935. 0.10 c.f.

The papers consist of a 1928 stock certificate of the Rosedale National Bank, Rosedale, Mississippi, and a 1935 stock certificate of the Consumers Co-Operative Association of Greenville, Mississippi. Both certificates were issued to Charles F. Reynolds of Bolivar County, Mississippi. Presented by Charles F. Reynolds, Jr., Manakin-Sabot, Virginia.

ROBINSON (AMALIE FAIR) PAPERS, ACCRETION. ca. 1891-1998. 5.50 c.f.

This accretion consists of correspondence, photographs, scrapbooks, publications, and memorabilia of Amalie Fair Robinson of Jackson, Mississippi, documenting her family life, college years, and her work with various civic organizations and clubs in Jackson. Included in the collection are correspondence, research files, photographs, and scrapbooks concerning the career of her husband, Mississippi state senator Thomas Mitchell Robinson. This collection is being presented by the estate of Amalie Fair Robinson.

ROBINSON (AMALIE FAIR) PAPERS, ACCRETION. ca. 1941-1995. 0.50 c.f.

This accretion contains family correspondence, photographs, social papers, and newsclippings of Amalie Fair Robinson of Jackson, Mississippi. This collection documents some of her work with the Mississippi department of the American Legion Auxiliary Girls' State and with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Also included are papers concerning the career of her husband, Mississippi state senator Thomas Mitchell Robinson. This collection is being presented by the estate of Amalie Fair Robinson.

RODNEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH RESTORATION RECORDS. ca. 1966-1992. 3.35 c.f.

The records consist of files of correspondence, reports, minutes, photographs, and architectural plans and specifications documenting the restoration of the Presbyterian church at Rodney, Mississippi, undertaken by the Mississippi Division of the United Daughters of the Confederacy and the Rodney Foundation, Inc. Some records also concern the restoration of the Sacred Heart Catholic church in Rodney, Mississippi. Presented by Blanche A. Burrell, Goodman, Mississippi.

SCOTT (ROY V.) MANUSCRIPT. n. d. 0.10 c.f.

This undated typescript manuscript by Roy V. Scott, professor emeritus of history at Mississippi State University, examines the impact of federal aid on higher education in Mississippi. After a general description of the history of federal aid to higher education, and the evolution of

educational land grants in the United States, the manuscript focuses particularly on federal aid provided through educational land grants in Mississippi. Presented by Roy V. Scott, Mississippi State, Mississippi

SNIPES (OTTIS L., JR.) PAPERS. ca. 1941-1961. 0.10 c.f.

This collection of papers of Ottis L. Snipes, Jr., of Brandon, Mississippi, consists of World War II ration books issued to Snipes and his family while Snipes was a resident of University, Mississippi. Accompanying them is a ration book holder and two newsclippings. Also included is a certificate signed by Governor Ross Barnett appointing Snipes a colonel in the Mississippi Greys centennial military force. Transferred from the Mississippi Department of Archives and History Library, Jackson, Mississippi

STENNIS (JOHN C.) PAPERS. 1966. 0.10 c.f.

This collection consists of two items concerning United States Senator John Cornelius Stennis of Kemper County, Mississippi: a photocopy of a typescript copy of a speech given by Stennis at the mid-winter meeting of the Reserve Officers Association of the United States, held in Washington, D. C., on February 25, 1966, at which Stennis was presented with the Minute Man of the Year Award; and a program for that meeting's banquet and military ball. Transferred from the library of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Mississippi

WHEELER (PETER STEVENS) PAPERS. 1943-1945. 0.10 c.f.

This collection consists of one letter, military papers, and photographs documenting the service of Peter Stevens Wheeler of Goodman, Mississippi, in the United States Navy during World War II. Presented by Peggy Wheeler, Jackson, Mississippi.

WHITE (HUGH) LETTER. 1955. 0.10 c.f.

This letter of Mississippi governor Hugh L. White, dated September 1, 1955, was written to Gulfport attorney John W. Savage, who had served as United States Commissioner, Southern District of Mississippi. The letter discusses Savage's support of J. P. Coleman in the primary elections, and Hugh L. White's views of various political figures. Presented by Cynthia Savage Pace, Amory, Mississippi.

WINN (STANLEY W.) AND FAMILY PAPERS. 1962-1966. 0.10 c.f.

These papers of Stanley W. Winn, of Jackson, Mississippi, include materials concerning the controversy surrounding the admission of James Meredith to the University of Mississippi in 1962. Included are a photocopy of a typescript copy of a speech made by attorney John C. Satterfield, and two pamphlets concerning the events at Oxford, Mississippi. Also included in this collection is a note from Eudora Welty thanking Elizabeth Winn for a book. Transferred from the library of the Mississippi Department of Archives and History, Jackson, Mississippi

WOLFE (OSCAR O., JR.) AND FAMILY PAPERS. ca. 1940-1996. 3.60 c.f.

The papers of Oscar O. Wolfe, Jr., of Duncan, Mississippi, include correspondence, photographs, speeches, publications, and newsclippings documenting Wolfe's career as a Mississippi legislator and lieutenant governor, and his lay service in the Methodist Church. Some papers concern the activities of his wife, Maurice Elizabeth Jackson Wolfe, and his sister,

Ora Wolfe Lenoir, in such patriotic societies as the United Daughters of the Confederacy. Presented by Thomas Boschert, Duncan, Mississippi.

Delta State University Archives

WILLIAM B. ALEXANDER, JR. PAPERS.. 1961-1994. 3 c.f.

Legislative files include subject files and correspondence with federal, state, and local officials, and constituents on topics such as abortion, ERA, education reform in Mississippi, and new federalism. Photographs and clippings related to his legislative career are included. Personal papers document his participation in the Southern Baptist Convention, service on the Mississippi College Board, and his continued interest and contact with the local, state, and national political scene.

BOYD-WALTERS-BOBO FAMILY PAPERS. ACCRETION. 1852-1938. .3 c.f.

Family letters and photographs, including cartes-de-visites portraits, mounted prints of family groups and gatherings and homes, and snapshots, ca. 1880-1940; letters, postcards, and newspaper clippings from Wyche Walters during WWI service, 1917-1919; two Civil War letters, 1864; deeds; and Confederate currency (2 bills).

BOYD-WALTERS-BOBO FAMILY PAPERS. ACCRETION. ca. 1900-1919, 1958-1971. 163 items.

One-hundred sixty post-cards of J.E. Walters, ca. 1900-1919. Includes scenes of Memphis, Columbus and Blue Mountain, as well as greeting post-cards. Three scorebooks of Delta State basketball, ca. 1958-1971, kept by DSU Math Professor Eleanor Walters, are also present.

GIBERT-KNOWLTON FAMILY PAPERS. 1867-1970. 6.6 c.f.

Personal correspondence of the Gibert and Knowlton families, including courtship letters from Jere Gibert to Ellen Williams and Sam Knowlton to Susie Gibert and correspondence between Emma Eleanor Knowlton and Maury Knowlton and their parents while the two are at college. These letters include such topics as family news, social activities, and plantation operation. Photographs include family portraits, a series of photographs presumably in Cuba or the Phillipines during the Spanish-American War, and a few scenes around Shaw, including during the Flood of 1913, and the Knowlton Plantation. School notebooks, photographs of sculptures, and some sketches of Emma Knowlton Lytle's work are also included.

GIBERT-KNOWLTON FAMILY PAPERS. Accretion. 1900-1932. 2 c.f. and 2 volumes

Personal correspondence of the Gibert and Knowlton families, especially between Emma Eleanor Knowlton and her parents while she attended college. Other items include condolence letters received upon and clippings about the death of Sam Dove Knowlton, a scrapbook of Susie Gibert, and a scrapbook of Emma Knowlton.

KAMIEN (ISADORE A.) FAMILY PAPERS. 1982-1992. 0.1 c.f.

Letters, printed material, and programs that relate to the Cleveland Rotary Club, of which Mr. Kamien was a charter member.

KAMIEN (ISADORE A.) FAMILY PAPERS. Papers. 1936-1998. 1 c.f.

Letters, programs, and other printed items relating to Cleveland civic organizations and the family's involvement in them. Clippings also relate to civic activities, as well as Kamien's Department Store.

SANBORN INSURANCES MAPS. Rosedale, Miss. 1918 and 1924. 2 items

SHARP (JAMES PIPES) PAPERS. 1902-1956. 0.6 cubic feet

This collection consists primarily of deeds to land in Bolivar County, 1902-1920.

Correspondence, stock, and receipts pertain to gin operation, the Bolivar Cotton Company, land deals, and farming operations are also present.

WALT (REBECCA DILLMAN) DIARY. (photocopy) 1854-1857. 1 volume.

The diary chronicles the everyday life of a Memphis upper-middle-class woman of the mid-1800s. She describes her sewing, visiting, attending church, and her readings on self-improvement and religion. Much of the diary reflects her search to become a "better Christian." She also records her stay in Higginsport, Ohio, with her family during her first pregnancy.

WIGGINS (SYLVIA) LETTERS. 1943-1946. 11 items

Letters and cards received by Sylvia Wiggins of Cleveland, Miss., from Delta State Teachers College students serving in World War II. The students describe their service and homesickness.

University of Southern Mississippi Archives

ADICKES (SANDRA E.) PAPERS, 1964-1994. .10 c.f., 4 items

Diary, articles, photographs, books concerning her activities as a Freedom School teacher in Hattiesburg during Freedom Summer 1964.. Donated by Sandra Adickes.

ELLIN (JOSEPH AND NANCY) FREEDOM SUMMER COLLECTION, 1964-1965. .50 c.f.

Correspondence and materials collected by these Freedom School teachers in Hattiesburg during Freedom Summer 1964, Donated by Joseph and Nancy Ellin.

FUNCHESS (GLENDA) CIVIL RIGHTS COLLECTION, 1964, 1994. .25 c.f.

Materials related to Freedom Summer 1964. Donated by Glenda Funchess.

JOHNSTON (ERLE E., JR.) PAPERS, 1922-1999. 15.3 c.f.

Materials documenting the personal and professional life this Mississippi newspaper publisher and director of the State Sovereignty Commission. Donated by the family of Erle Johnston.

JOHNSTON, (ERLE) ORAL HISTORY APPENDIX, 1964-1966. 1 folder

Typescript summary of the activities of the Mississippi State Sovereignty Commission by one of the Commission's last directors. Transferred from the Erle Johnston oral history interview in the archives of USM's Oral History Department.

MANTINBAND (RABBI CHARLES) PAPERS, 1950s-1960s. .70 c.f.

Writings, correspondence, photographs, and condolence letters on the death of this outspoken proponent of Civil Rights and Rabbi at Temple B'Nai Israel in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Donated by Rabbi Mantinband's daughter Mrs. Carol Ginsburg.

SHAW (TERRI) FREEDOM SUMMER COLLECTION, 1964. .10 c.f.

Typescript and articles recounting her experiences as a volunteer in the COFO office in Hattiesburg during Freedom Summer 1964. Donated by Terri Shaw.

UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE, HARRISON EXPERIMENTAL FOREST STATION COLLECTION, 1925-1990. 9 c.f.

Photographs, slides, maps, and manuscripts produced by Station scientists and staff. Donated by the Station.

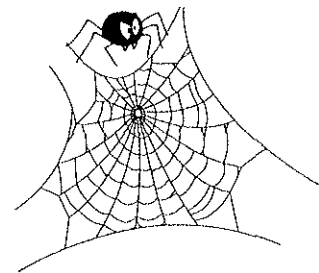
ZEMAN (ZOYA) FREEDOM SUMMER COLLECTION, 1890-1998. 1 c.f.

Materials documenting Zeman's activities as a Freedom Summer 1964 volunteer in Clarksdale, Mississippi. Donated by Zoya Zeman.



Web in Progress

Sites will be changed periodically



Imaging, Digitization, and Preservation of Digital Information

Archive Builders: Specializing in manual and digital corporate archives and records management

<http://www.ArchiveBuilders.com/home.html>
(This site contains articles and course materials)

The National Library of Australia's Preserving Access to Digital Information (PADI) initiative

<http://www.nla.gov.au/padi/>
(Offers reports, papers, and a discussion list)

Societies and Organizations, National:

Society of American Archivists

<http://www.archivists.org/>

Academy of Certified Archivists (ACA)

<http://www.uwm.edu/Library/arch/aca/index.htm>

National Association of Government Archives and Records Administrators
<http://www.nagara.org/>

Societies and Organizations, Regional:

Society of Alabama Archivists

http://www.auburn.edu/academic/societies/soc_ala_archivists/

Society of Tennessee Archivists

<http://www.arkay.net/tnarchivist/>

Louisiana Archives and Manuscripts Association (LAMA)

<http://www.gnofn.org/~nopl/lama/lama.htm>

Society of Southwest Archivists

<http://lib-04.lib.uh.edu/ssa/ssa.htm>

Preservation:

CoOI Conservation Online

<http://palimpsest.stanford.edu/>

Northeast Document Conservation Center

<http://www.nedcc.org/>

Solinet Preservation Services

<http://www.solinet.net/presvtn/preshome.htm>

Repositories in Mississippi:

Delta State University Archives

<http://wwwlib.deltast.edu/aboutlib/departments/archivesinfo.html>

Mississippi Dept. of Archives and History <http://www.mdah.state.ms.us/index.html>

University of Southern Mississippi Archives <http://www.lib.usm.edu/archives/>

Jackson State University Archives / Margaret Walker Alexander Research Center

<http://stallion.jsums.edu/~mwarc/home.htm>

Mississippi State University Archives

<http://nt.library.msstate.edu/spcohome.htm>

University of Mississippi Archives

http://www.olemiss.edu/depts/general_library/files/archives/index.html

Comprehensive sites:

National Archives and Records Administration <http://www.nara.gov/>

Library of Congress <http://lcweb.loc.gov/>

For More Listings of Sites:

Comprehensive List of Archives on the Web (Arranged by Country and State):

Repositories of Primary Sources

<http://www.uidaho.edu/special-collections/Other.Repositories.html>

Directory of Regional, State and Local Archival Organizations in the United States

<http://sophia.smith.edu/~pnelson/regionals/>

Listservs and Newsgroups:

ARCHIVES@LISTSERV.MUOHIO.EDU <http://listserv.muohio.edu/SCRIPTS/WA.EXE>

Conservation DistList consdist@lindy.stanford.edu

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